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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/676,025

10/02/2003

Ki-Keon Ycom

1572.1147

6454

21171

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12/08/2006

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

SUITE 700

1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

KIM, PAUL D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3729

DATE MAILED: 12/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/676,025

Applicant(s)

YEOM ET AL.

Examiner

Paul D. Kim

Art Unit

3729

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17 and 18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5,6,8,10,15,16 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4,7,9 and 11-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/19/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

This office action is a response to the restriction requirement filed on 9/19/2006.

#### ***Response to the Restriction Requirement***

1. This application contains claims 17 and 18 drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse filed on 4/11/2006. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

#### ***Terminal Disclaimer***

2. The terminal disclaimer filed on 9/19/2006 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of 10/676,144 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Guthrie et al.

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Guthrie et al. teach a disk centering device comprising: a base plate (430); a chuck (450 as shown in Fig. 4) which is installed on the base plate; a hub unit (310) which is detachably engaged to the chuck and receives discs (210) to be stacked as shown in Fig. 3; disc pushers (614, 814, 920 as shown in Figs. 6 and 8-10) which are slidably provided outside the hub unit and include corresponding plate springs (614) which push circumferences of the discs and center the discs; supporting units (412) which support the corresponding plate springs with respect to the disc pushers so as to reinforce a restoring force of the plate springs (col. 6, line 32 to col. 7, line 6 and col. 11, lines 4-67); and a driving unit (1090A, 1090B and 1090C as shown in Fig. 10) which slides the disc pushers simultaneously (see also col. 4, line 12 to col. 13, line 22).

Re. Claims 3 and 15: The hub unit comprises a hub body (310), which is detachably engaged to the chuck and receives the discs and a hub cap (1050 as shown in Fig. 10) which moves up or down to clamp the discs stacked with respect to the hub body.

Re. Claim 5: The disc pushers are provided in a radial direction relative to the hub unit.

Re. Claims 6 and 16: The disc pushers include first, second and third disc pushers, which are provided at intervals of 120 degrees with respect to the hub unit as shown in Fig. 4.

Re. Claim 8: The driving unit includes a motor having cylindrical actuators (not shown), which drive the corresponding disc pushers.

Re. Claim 10: a linear guide unit (1082 A, B as shown in Fig. 10) which mounts the disc pushers, wherein the linear guide unit slides the disc pushers according to the driving unit.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 2, 4, 7, 9 and 11-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments filed 9/19/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the prior art of record fails to disclose the claimed invention such as a chuck and a driving unit which slides the disc pushers simultaneously. Examiner traverses the argument that Guthrie et al. teach the chuck unit (450) form on the base plate, which receives and holds the hub unit as shown in Fig. 4. Also, the driving unit of Guthrie et al. simultaneously moves the disk pushers forward to center the disk (see also col. 11, lines 22-51).

***Conclusion***

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

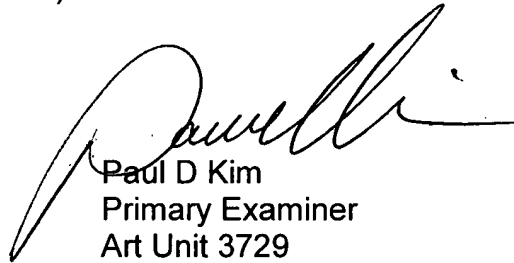
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul D. Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-4565. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday between 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Paul D Kim  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3729